

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

Call to Order: Chairman Donald J. Steinbeisser, on March 5, 2009
at 3:00 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser, Chairman (R)
Sen. Terry Murphy, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Gary Branae (D)
Sen. Taylor Brown (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)
Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)
Sen. Rick Ripley (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Joan Linkenbach, Committee Secretary
Sue O'Connell, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 168, 2/21/2009; HB 247,
2/23/2009; HB 368, 2/23/2009

Executive Action: HB 368; HB 247; HB 168

HEARING ON HB 247

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:08 Rep. Bob Bergren (D), HD 33, opened the hearing on HB 247, Generally revise agriculture laws--re: definition of natural beef.

00:02:32 Sen. Larsen present

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:38 Lee Boyer, Bureau Chief, Montana Department of Agriculture (DOA)

00:03:01 Chris Christiaens, Montana Farmers Union

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:03:34 Sen. Brown
00:03:50 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:03:54 Sen. Brown
00:03:59 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:04:32 Sen. Brown
00:04:44 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:05:03 Sen. Brown
00:05:14 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:05:53 Sen. Brown
00:06:07 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:06:50 Sen. Larsen
00:07:26 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:08:07 Sen. Larsen
00:09:15 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:09:28 Sen. Hansen
00:09:40 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:09:46 Sen. Hansen
00:10:00 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:10:07 Sen. Hansen
00:10:51 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:11:30 Sen. Ripley
00:12:01 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:12:32 Sen. Ripley
00:12:37 Sen. Brown
00:12:49 Mr. Boyer, DOA

00:12:56 Sen. Brown
00:13:01 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:13:21 Sen. Hamlett
00:13:38 Mr. Boyer, DOA
00:14:04 Sen. Hamlett
00:14:13 Mr. Boyer, DOA

Closing by Sponsor:

00:14:25 Rep. Bergren

HEARING ON HB 168

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:15:59 Rep. J. David Roundstone (D), HD 41, opened the hearing on HB 168, Expand asset eligibility for beginning farm loan program.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:18:00 Lee Boyer, Bureau Chief, Montana Department of Agriculture, (DOA)
00:18:26 Chris Christiaens, Montana Farmers Union
00:19:16 Nichole Rolf, Montana Farm Bureau Federation, Montana Wool Growers Association
00:21:06 Gary Amestoy, Richland County Economic Corporation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:23:40 Sen. Hansen
00:24:25 Mr. Boyer, DOA

Closing by Sponsor:

00:25:19 Rep. Roundstone

HEARING ON HB 368

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:26:32 Rep. John Fleming (D), HD 12, opened the hearing on HB 368, Allow partial list of fees on grain placard -- warehouse Ops & commodity dealers.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:29:07 Lee Boyer, Bureau Chief, Montana Department of
Agriculture (DOA)

00:29:28 Chris Christiaens, Montana Farmers Union

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:30:15 Rep. Fleming

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 368

00:31:14 **Motion:** Sen. Jackson moved that **HB 368 BE CONCURRED
IN.**

Discussion:

00:31:52 Sen. Ripley

00:32:14 Sue O'Connell, Legislative Services Division, (LSD)

00:32:28 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen.
Larsen will carry the bill in the Senate.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 247

00:32:40 **Motion:** Sen. Jackson moved that **HB 247 BE CONCURRED
IN.**

Discussion:

00:33:51 Sen. Brown

00:35:19 Chairman Steinbeisser

00:35:27 Sen. Ripley

00:36:14 Sen. Hansen

00:37:39 Chairman Steinbeisser

00:38:02 Sen. Hansen

00:38:13 Chairman Steinbeisser

00:38:17 Sen. Hansen

00:38:55 Sen. Brown

00:40:00 Sen. Hamlett

00:40:37 Chairman Steinbeisser

00:40:46 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Peterson will carry the bill in the Senate.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 168

00:41:08 **Motion:** Sen. Brown moved that **HB 168 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

00:41:35 Sen. Hansen

00:41:55 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Hansen will carry the bill in the Senate.

Discussion:

00:42:23 Sen. Brown

00:42:56 Chairman Steinbeisser

00:43:01 Sen. Brown

00:43:08 Chairman Steinbeisser

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:40 P.M.

Joan Linkenbach, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([ags49aad.pdf](#))